

Appl. No. 09/896,088
Amdt. Dated: December 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 18, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - (a) generating a key hash result partially based on a global identifier of a source and an estimated current time at the source;
 - (b) producing a first time-varying item based on the key hash result; and
 - (c) presenting the first time-varying item for sensory comparison with a second time-varying item being presented at the source and contemporaneous playing back audible sounds associated with both the first and second time-varying items for auditory comparison.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting of the first time-varying item is contemporaneous with presentation of the second time-varying item if the global identifier of the source is accurately received and the current time at the source has been accurately estimated.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - (d) repeating (a), (b) and (c) for each subsequent presentation of a newly produced first time-varying item and comparison of the newly produced first time-varying item with a newly produced and presented second time-varying item.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein prior to generating the key hash result, the method further comprises:

receiving a verification packet from the source, the verification packet including the global identifier of the source and a local time value at which the verification packet was formed at the source.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the verification packet further includes a table inclusive of items displayed as the first time-varying item and the second time-varying item.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the verification packet further includes a data field to contain information to be transferred.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the information includes a lookup table for selection of the item to be presented.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the verification packet further includes a digital signature of contents of the verification packet.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the generating of the key hash result further comprises

computing a clock skew by recording a receipt time upon which the verification packet is received and computing a time difference between the receipt time and the local time value;

computing the estimated current time at the source corresponding to a current time at a destination based on the clock skew; and

performing a cryptographic hash operation on a combination of at least the global identifier and the estimated current time to generate the key hash result.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the producing of the first time-varying item includes accessing an entry of a lookup table using the key hash result and recovering contents of the entry as the first time-varying item.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the presenting of the first time-varying item for sensory comparison comprises displaying the first time-varying item contemporaneously with a display of the second time-varying item for visual comparison.

12. (Cancelled).

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13. (Previously Presented) A software stored in platform readable medium executed by internal circuitry within a computing unit, the software comprising:

(a) a first software module to periodically generate a key hash result based on at least a global identifier of a source and an estimated current time at the source providing the global identifier;

(b) a second software module to produce successive images varied after each selected time interval for display on a display screen of the computing unit, a first time-varying image of the successive images being based on a first key hash result; and

(c) a third software module to present the successive images for sensory comparison with a succession of time-varying images at the source.

14. (Previously Presented) The software of claim 13, wherein the first, second and third software modules repeatedly generate successive key hash results, produce a first time-varying image of the successive images using the first key hash result and display the first time-varying image for comparison with a second time-varying image being one of the successive images produced and displayed at the source.

15. (Original) The software of claim 13 further comprising:
a fourth software module to receive a verification packet from the source, the verification packet including the global identifier of the source and a local time value at which the verification packet was formed at the source.

16. (Previously Presented) The software of claim 14, wherein the first software module generates the first key hash result through computation of a clock skew by recording a receipt time upon which the verification packet is received and computing a time difference between the receipt time and the local time value, computation of the estimated current time at the source corresponding to a current time at a destination using the clock skew, and performance of a cryptographic hash operation on a combination of at least the global identifier and the estimated current time.

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17. (Previously Presented) The software of claim 16, wherein the second software module produces the first time-varying image by accessing an entry of a lookup table using the first key hash result and recovering contents of the entry as the first time-varying image.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A computing unit comprising:
a casing;
an input/output (I/O) interface;
a device that provides sensory data for a user, the device being integrated into the casing;
and
internal circuitry contained within the casing and controlling information presented by the device, the internal circuitry to generate a key hash result based on a global identifier of a second computing unit remotely located from the computing unit source and an estimated current time at the ~~source~~second computing unit.

20. (Original) The computing unit of claim 19, wherein the internal circuitry is a memory and a processor accessing information from the memory.

21. (Currently Amended) The computing unit of claim 19, wherein the I/O interface is an antenna to receive signals from the ~~source~~second computing unit and provide the signals to the internal circuitry for processing.

22. (Original) The computing unit of claim 19, wherein the I/O interface to receive a verification packet including at least the global identifier and a local time value at which the verification packet was formed prior to transmission to the computing unit.

23. (Currently Amended) The computing unit of claim 22, wherein the internal circuitry generates the key hash result based on the global identifier, the estimated current time at the second computing unit source and data contained in a data field of the verification packet.

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24. (Previously Presented) The computing unit of claim 19, wherein the device is a display screen that displays the information being time-varying images.

25. (Previously Presented) The computing unit of claim 23, wherein the device is at least one speaker that playback audible sounds which vary in time based on a value of the key hash result.

26. (Original) The computing unit of claim 23, wherein device is at least a tactile device that produces Braille patterns which vary in time based on a value of the key hash result.

27. (Previously Presented) A network comprising:
a first computing unit to (i) transmit successive verification packets each including a static global identifier and a varying local time value realized at the first computing unit during formation of that verification packet, (ii) generate successive first time-varying items based on contents provided within their corresponding verification packet, and (iii) present the first time-varying items in successive fashion; and
a second computing unit to (i) receive each verification packet, (ii) compute a clock skew to determine a time difference between the first computing unit and the second computing unit in response to receipt of a first verification packet, (iii) generate successive second time-varying items based on contents provided by their corresponding verification packet, and (iv) present the second time-varying items for sensory comparison with the first time-varying items.

28. (Original) The network of claim 27, wherein the first computing unit communicates with the second computing unit over a wireless link.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~network of claim 27, wherein verification that the second computing unit has received the global identifier of the first computing unit when the second time-varying items are presented and changed contemporaneously with the first time-varying items.

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30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein producing of the first time-varying item comprises accessing bits of at least a portion of the key hash result to determine horizontal or vertical orientation of the first time-varying item being a displayable image.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein producing of the first time-varying item comprises accessing bits of at least a portion of the key hash result to determine one or more selected colors of the first time-varying item being a displayable image.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein producing of the first time-varying item comprises accessing bits of at least a first portion of the key hash result to a type of musical note of the first time-varying item being an audible sound.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein producing of the first time-varying item further comprises accessing bits of at least a second portion of the key hash result to determine one of a duration, a meter rate or an octave change of the audible sound.

34. (Previously Presented) A software stored in platform readable medium executed by internal circuitry within a computing unit, the software comprising:

(a) a first software module to periodically generate key hash results based on at least a global identifier of a source and an estimated current time at the source providing the global identifier;

(b) a second software module to produce successive audible sounds varied after each selected time interval for playback over speakers of the computing unit, a first time-varying audible sound of the audible sounds being based on a first key hash result of the key hash results; and

(c) a third software module to playback the successive audible sounds for sensory comparison with a succession of audible sounds contemporaneously produced at the source in order for the user of the computing unit to verify accurate receipt of the global identifier of the source.